

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 9
July 13, 2011

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty Indian commercial salmon
Fisheries under review:	Recreational sturgeon below Wauna

STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 are considered upper Columbia summer Chinook. These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- TAC met on July 11 and changed the prediction of the Upper Columbia Summer Chinook run size at the river mouth to 80,000.
- As of July 12, 54,501 adult upper Columbia summer Chinook have passed Bonneville Dam.

Sockeye

- TAC updated the sockeye forecast to 181,500 fish to the Columbia River mouth
- Bonneville Dam passage through July 12 totals 168,974 sockeye. Counts remain well above average levels for this time of year.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty and non-treaty summer season fisheries.
- The harvest rate schedule for Chinook was shown in Summer Fact Sheet #1.
- The impact limit on the 2011 Columbia River return ESA listed sockeye is 7% for treaty Indian fisheries.

2011 Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Based on the updated forecasts and corresponding ESA impact limits, treaty Indian fisheries are allocated a total of 22,974 adult summer Chinook and 12,705 sockeye.
- Yakama tributary fisheries are also ongoing, which may include the Little White Salmon River (Drano Lake), and the White Salmon, Klickitat, and Icicle rivers. These fisheries do not require Compact action.
- The preliminary harvest in the first four commercial gillnet openings is shown in the table below. An updated projection for this week's fishery based on the last three week's catch is shown also.

2011 Summer Season Treaty Indian Mainstem Harvest

Fishery	Stat week	Days	Nets	Chinook Adults	Steelhead	Sockeye	Sturgeon	Walleye
6/16-6/18	25	2.5	322	4,230	139	602	44	28
6/20-6/23	26	3.5	350	3,390	169	1,324	63	27
6/27-6/30	27	3.5	364	3,335	245	4,515	229	15
7/5-7/7	28	3.5	358	3,024	279	4,194	57	20
Subtotal				13,979	832	10,635	393	90
7/11-7/15 projected	29	4.5	295	3,000	400	500		
Total				16,979	1,232	11,135		
Total allowed Harvest				22,974		12,705		
Remaining				5,995		1,570		
7/18-7/21 Predicted	30	3.5	300	2,500		500		
Remaining				3,495		1,070		

Platform and hook and line harvest is included in the weekly gillnet catch estimates.

- Sockeye catches remain very close to the 7% harvest rate limit. Therefore the tribes will maintain the minimum mesh size restriction and prohibition of commercial sales of sockeye in next week's gillnet fishery.
- The tribes propose a 3.5 day fishery in an effort to continue access to the remaining harvestable summer Chinook.
- The tribes project a harvest of approximately 2,500 Chinook and 250-500 sockeye in a 3.5 day fishery next week. The tribes expect similar effort compared to this week's fishery (approximately 300 nets). This would bring the total tribal Chinook harvest to approximately 19,400 Chinook and approximately 11,500 sockeye.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Treaty Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>		
Season	6 AM Monday July 18 to 6 PM Thursday July 21	(3.5 days)
Area	Zones 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries apply. No Spring Creek hatchery sanctuary is necessary this time of year.	
Gear:	Gill nets with a minimum stretched mesh size of 7.25 inches.	
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold, but may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes. Sales of fish caught during open period gillnet periods are allowed after the end of the open period, as long as the fish were landed during the open period.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers.	

- The catch for next week is expected to remain within the treaty harvest limits. An additional opening in the last week of July is anticipated. The tribes will monitor catch and effort to ensure the fishery remains within management limits.

Recreational White Sturgeon Fisheries below Wauna Powerlines

- Based on a harvest guideline of 6,800 fish for the fishery below Wauna, retention seasons of January 1 – April 30, May 14 – June 26, and July 1-4 were originally adopted with and expected catch of 6,100.
- Based on a large projected balance due to lower than expected catch and effort, the retention season was extended to include June 27-30 and July 5-31 with a projected season total catch of 5,850.
- Actual harvest rates during late June and early July averaged 69 and 98 fish per day respectively, compared to an expected rate of 110 fish per day used in extending the season.
- Catch per angler since June 1 is tracking slightly higher in 2011 than in 2010, while angler trips per day is tracking 69% of last year.
- Based expected catch, the sturgeon retention season below Wauna is expected to continue as scheduled through July 31, with a combined season catch of 5,281 fish or 78% of the guideline.

2011 Recreational White Sturgeon Harvest Below Wauna			
Date	Trips	Kept	Kept/Day
1-1-5/31	2,207	200	11
6/1-6/12	3,279	476	40
6/13-6/19	3,499	554	79
6/20-6/26	3,414	679	97
6/27-6/30	523	79	20
7/1-7/3	1,304	280	93
7/4-7/10	2,899	703	100
Sum	17,125	2,971	
7/11-7/31 (proj.)	9,750	2,310	110
	26,875	5,281	

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The tribes may request a Compact Hearing on July 20 or 21 to consider additional tribal commercial fisheries.
- The first fall season Compact is scheduled for 10 AM July 28 at the Holiday Inn (204 West Marine Dr.) in Astoria, Oregon.